

What Is Claimed Is:

1. An ink jet recording ink containing water and a colorant comprising a pigment encapsulated by a polymer having a carboxyl group,

5 wherein said ink jet recording ink further contains at least methylisothiazolone and octylisothiazolone.

2. The ink jet recording ink according to Claim 1, wherein the ink jet recording ink further contains macromolecular fine particles and a humectant,

10 the combined amount of the polymer and the macromolecular fine particles is at least 1%, and

the humectant content is at least 5%.

3. The ink jet recording ink according to Claim 1, wherein the combined

15 amount of the methylisothiazolone and the octylisothiazolone is at least 20 ppm and no more than 1000 ppm.

4. The ink jet recording ink according to Claim 1, wherein the methylisothiazolone content is at least 10 ppm and no more than 500 ppm, and the

20 octylisothiazolone content is at least 10 ppm and no more than 800 ppm.

5. The ink jet recording ink according to any of Claims 1 to 4, wherein the pH of the ink jet recording ink is from 6 to 10.

25 6. The ink jet recording ink according to any of Claims 1 to 4, wherein the ink jet recording ink further contains a polyhydric alcohol and a substance being capable of lowering the dynamic surface tension of the ink to 40 mN/m or less as measured by the maximum bubble pressure method at the condition of 5 Hz or higher.

30 7. The ink jet recording ink according to Claim 6, wherein the being capable of lowering the dynamic surface tension of the ink to 40 mN/m or less as measured by the maximum bubble pressure method at the condition of 5 Hz or

higher is at least one or more types of substance selected from the group consisting of acetylene glycol-based surfactants, acetylene alcohol-based surfactants, silicon-based surfactants, glycol ethers, and/or 1,2-alkylene glycols.

- 5           8.       The ink jet recording ink according to any of Claims 1 to 4, wherein the colorant is an organic pigment or an inorganic pigment.